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HQ AFSC KIRTLAND AFB NM//CV//

ALSAFECOM

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SUBJECT: ALSAFECOM 002/00 - TIRE SERVICING HAZARDS

1. VERY RECENTLY THE AIR FORCE EXPERIENCED TWO SEPARATE SERIOUS MISHAPS WHILE WORKERS SERVICED MULTI-PIECE SPLIT RIM WHEELS. IN BOTH INCIDENTS THE INDIVIDUAL WAS STRUCK AND SERIOUSLY INJURED WHEN RIM PARTS EXPLOSIVELY SEPARATED. BOTH INDIVIDUALS ARE LUCKY TO HAVE SURVIVED. THESE MISHAPS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION.
2. IT IS ABSOLUTELY PARAMOUNT THAT WORKERS UNDERSTAND AND EMPLOY CORRECT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO TYPES OF TIRES AND WHEELS BEING SERVICED. FAILURE TO ENSURE TIRES ARE COMPLETELY DEFLATED PRIOR TO SERVICING MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. REMOVAL OF THE VALVE CORE IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE ABSOLUTELY NO AIR PRESSURE REMAINS IN THE TIRE.
3. SEVERAL DIFFERENT AIR FORCE ACTIVITIES ARE INVOLVED WITH TIRE SERVICING OPERATIONS AND DIFFERENT T.O.S, JOB GUIDES, AND OTHER MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE COVERING TIRE SERVICING PROCESSES. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT SOME T.O.S, JOB GUIDES, AND OTHER MAINTENANCE GUIDES DO NOT COMPLETELY ADDRESS ALL PROCEDURES REQUIRED

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TO ENSURE THAT ABSOLUTELY NO AIR PRESSURE REMAINS IN A TIRE PRIOR TO SERVICING. TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MUST BE AT LEAST AS STRINGENT AS INFORMATION CONTAINED IN AFOSH STANDARD 91-20, VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOPS.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS AT THIS TIME ARE: KNOW WHERE TIRE SERVICING OPERATIONS ARE CONDUCTED ON YOUR INSTALLATION. ACTIVITIES INVOLVED NEED TO IDENTIFY AND REVIEW ALL T.O.S, JOB GUIDES AND OTHER MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE ASSOCIATED WITH TIRE SERVICING OPERATIONS. GUIDANCE THAT FAILS TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETELY DEFLATING THE TIRE IAW REQUIREMENTS IN AFOSH STANDARD 91-20 SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED TO FUNCTIONAL MANAGERS AND APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TAKEN TO CORRECT ANY DISCREPANCIES.

5. ENSURE ALL TIRE SERVICING ACTIVITIES, TO INCLUDE HOST BASE AND TENANT ORGANIZATIONS, RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION. BOTTOM LINE: DO NOT SERVICE TIRES UNLESS REMOVAL OF THE VALVE CORE HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED!

4. THE HQ AFSC/SEGS POC FOR THIS SUBJECT IS SMSGT ENNIS, DSN 246-0827.

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